

Proposed General Plan Update Policies and Actions that Contribute to Greenhouse Gas Reduction



Multiple policies included within the General Plan will address how San Jose intends to reduce the emission of greenhouse gasses (GHG) within the City. A Climate Action Plan, under preparation, will identify those policies and provide analysis as to their likely impact upon GHG reductions. This information sheet summarizes the goals, policies and actions reviewed so far by the Task Force that address GHG reduction.

Parks, Trails, Open Space, and Recreation Amenities/Programs

Vehicle Travel Reduction

PR-1.1 through 1.11; PR-2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.6, 2.8; PR-3.1 through 3.5; PR-4.1 and PR-4.4 through 4.6; PR-5.5; PR-6.2, 6.4, 6.6; PR-7.1 through 7.9; PR-8.2, 8.5 through 8.10, 8.19, 8.20

Providing convenient access to parks and recreation facilities that meet the varied and changing needs of residents, workers, and visitors contributes to greenhouse gas reduction by providing people with the option to walk or bicycle, instead of drive, to nearby locations that satisfy their park and recreation needs.

Conservation/Efficiency

PR-6.1, 6.2, 6.5, 6.9

Developing and maintaining parks and recreation facilities utilizing recognized green practices contributes to greenhouse gas reduction by ensuring facilities are designed to conserve energy and operate in an energy efficient manner.

Public Outreach and Education

PR-1.14; PR-2.8 through 2.10; PR-4.1; PR-6.1; PR-7.7; PR-8.1, 8.7

Coordination with the public on the design and programming of parks and recreation facilities helps to ensure that these facilities provide the types of amenities and services that will encourage residents, workers, and visitors to use them. This reduces the need for people to leave their neighborhood or the City to satisfy their everyday park and recreation needs. This in turn reduces greenhouse gases generated by reducing the amount of vehicle travel. Ongoing outreach and education will inform people of the park and recreation resources that are available, and how to access and make use of those resources.

Water Supply, Water Conservation, Water Recycling and Water Quality

Conservation/Efficiency

WS-1.1, 1.2; 2.1 through 2.4, 2.7, 2.8; WS-3.1, 3.3, 3.4, 3.6 through 3.9; WS-4.1, 4.2

Protecting and conserving existing local water resources and expanding utilization of recycled water reduces demand for imported water and reduces the greenhouse gasses associated with treatment and delivery of that water. Ensuring that water is used as efficiently as possible also reduces the demand for imported water.

Public Outreach and Education

WS-1.3, 1.6; WS-2.5; WS-3.2, 3.5

Outreach and education helps inform residents, businesses, and visitors of the important role and responsibility they have in protecting the City's local water resources.

Clean Technology

Conservation/Efficiency

CT-1.1 through 1.5

The Clean Technology industry can develop innovative products and services that support clean energy generation, energy efficiency and conservation. It is part of the City's economic development strategy to foster the development and commercialization of new technologies that can reduce impacts upon natural resources, including GHG reductions.

Public Outreach and Education

CT-1.6

Along with several other draft policies, CT-1.6 promotes awareness and adoption of environmentally beneficial clean technologies by San Jose businesses and residents.

Green Building

Conservation/Efficiency

GB-1.1 through 1.3, 1.5 through 1.7; GB-2.1 through 2.4; GB-2.6 through 2.13; GB-3.1 through 3.5, 3.7, 3.8; GB-5.1, 5.2, and 5.4

These policies support the conservation of energy and water and the increased use of renewable energy sources, thereby reducing GHG emissions due to energy production and water transport. They also support reduced transportation related to waste disposal and increased recycling to reduce the manufacture and transport of new goods.

Public Outreach and Education

GB-1.4, 1.8, 1.9; GB-2.5; GB-3.6,

These policies promote awareness and adoption of green building practices which result in reduced GHG emissions by San Jose businesses and residents.

Zero Waste

Vehicle Travel Reduction

ZW 2-4, 4-4

These policies support reduced transportation related to waste disposal.

Conservation/Efficiency

ZW 2-1, 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-6, 3-7, 3-8, ZW 4-1 through ZW 4-9

These policies support the reduction of GHG emissions by promoting more efficient manufacturing and service delivery methods and by increasing recycling to reduce the manufacture and transportation of new goods.

Public Outreach and Education

ZW 1-5, 1-14, 3-7, 3-13, 4-4, 5-5, and 5-6

These policies support public outreach related to reduction of waste and increased recycling which will reduce GHG emissions.

Energy

Vehicle Travel Reduction

E-1.1, 1.2

These policies directly address reduced GHG emissions by promoting land use patterns that require less vehicular travel.

Conservation/Efficiency

E-1.3 through 1.7; E-2.1 through 2.3; E-3.3, E-4.1 through 4.3

These policies promote the use of energy efficient design and construction techniques for new and existing development and the increased development and use of alternative energy sources.

Public Outreach and Education

E-3.1, 3.2, 3.4, and E-4.5

These policies support continued educational efforts related to a reduction in energy use, including reduced reliance upon energy sources related with high GHG emissions.